

**Weatherford Area Economic Development Foundation**

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 9, 2016**

**Weatherford City Hall – 522 W. Rainey Ave – Weatherford, OK 73096**

- **Call to Order** – Chairman Mike Hixson called the meeting to order at 7:05 a.m.
- **Notice** - Notice of the meeting was posted at the Weatherford City Hall and filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk at 2:00 P.M., March 2, 2016
- **Attendance** - Please see attached sign-in sheet for attendance.
- **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes from the meeting of 2.10.1016 where unanimously approved.
- **Presentation of Treasurer’s Report** - The WEDF financial information was provided to members by Wes Magill, Treasurer
- **WAEDF Economic development update** - Chuck Dougherty reported on the following:
  1. Exit 82 Phase II – Progress continues including a meeting regarding utilities that may be impacted by the project. It was determined they will be a minimal cost and issue. The project is still planned to start late 2016.
  2. Tobacco Settlement Grant – Funds from this grant are being used to assist in funding an outdoor workout area at the Sand Plum Trail.
  3. Armory – Food Resource Center remodel of the interior continues.
  4. Prairie West Club House – Expected to be completed by June 2016.
  5. OK Midsized City Coalition is supporting HB2925 (related to sales tax) and helping to protect retail business in Oklahoma
  6. Old Ford Dealership Property – A plan is in place to demolition the building with bids due March 30, 2016. Concrete will be removed but sink hole will remain open for further study and analysis.
  7. Sales tax results: Down 7.4% for the month, and 11.2% when compared to last same period last year.
- **Special Presentation – Gary Ridley – Oklahoma Secretary of Transportation**

The Secretary presented on the many aspects of the State’s transportation infrastructure including on-going plans for improving roads, bridges, and managing the funding challenges. Some highlights of the presentation included:

- Weatherford was complimented on their cooperation and proactive work on the Exit 82 project, including the assistance with funding the project. The proactive approach of the City was critical to this project.
- A serious focus in bridge improvements in the State began in 2006 and continues with good progress
- Traffic volumes in OKC will increase substantially in the next 20 years and new north/south corridors will be necessary. The plan is to build the necessary expansion will be done through the OK Turnpike Authority
- Bonds should be considered to assist with the funding challenges on new construction of roads in the future

- **Meeting adjourned at 7:50 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

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Gary Mol - Secretary

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Chuck Dougherty - WAED Director